make available the raw material to users at reasonable prices in consultation with the concerned administrative Ministries. An import duty of 10 per cent is considered adequate for this purpose.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Recovery of loans from cotton farmers

1204. SHRI SHARAD ANANTRAO JOSHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to avoid coercive recoveries of loans given to cotton farmers in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any guidelines have been issued regarding restricting the burdern of interest less than the principal amount in order to remove indebtedness in cotton farmers; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and by when the same would be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Loan granted to North Eastern States

1205. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the details of mid-term loan granted to the North Eastern States during the current financial year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): During current financial year, so far, medium term loan of Rs. 609 crore has been sanctioned to Manipur.

Increase in net revenue receipts

1206. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a considerable increase in net revenue

(a) whether there has been a considerable increase in net revenue receipts to Government during the year 2003-04 as compared to the year 2002-03;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the areas which accounted for the increase; and

(d) the prognosis for the year 2004-05?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The net tax revenue of the centre during 2002-2003 was Rs. 159425 crores (provisional actual) whereas the figure for 2003-04 was Rs. 187539 crores (RE).

(c) The increase was in the areas of Corporation Tax, Taxes on Income other than Corporation Tax, Customs, Union Excise Duties and Service Tax.

(d) In so far as Direct Taxes are concerned, till the end of November, 2004, collections have increased by 33.74 per cent over the collections made during the corresponding period of last year. If the present trends of growth in direct tax collections continue for the remaining part of the current financial year, the Budget Estimates of Rs. 1,39,510 crore for 2004-05 are likely to be achieved.

In so far as Indirect Taxes are concerned, the continuous growth in revenue of Excise and Customs duties and Service Tax for the period April-October 2004 was 12.90 per cent as compared with the corresponding period of the previous year. Actual growth in revenue for the balance period of 2004-05 depends upon a number of factors such as growth in clearance, value etc. All efforts are being made to achieve the target.

Kisan Credit Card

†1207. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the target of providing Kisan Credit Card by the Nationalised Banks and Scheduled Banks in each State of the country during the years 2003-04 and 2004-05;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.